

Page 2, line 23, beginning "The object of the invention...", insert the following heading at the left hand margin:

--Summary of the Invention--

Page 5, at line 18, before the paragraph beginning "The invention will now be...", insert the following heading at the left hand margin:

--Brief Description of the Drawings--;

Page 6, line 12, delete "Fig. 1 schematically illustrates..." through page 6 line 16 "...through 2n." and insert it at page 7, line 13, preceded by the following heading:

--Detailed Description of the Embodiment(s) of the Invention--;

Page 6, line 17, delete "In the above-mentioned environment" and insert -In the example described";

Page 6, line 18, delete 'In the example described,' and substitute -A processor sends a request to--;

Page 24, formula 4, line 26, change " \overline{ACL}_i " to -- \overline{ACL} --;

Page 26, after the last paragraph ending "...of the preemptive type.", insert the following new paragraph:

As, --While this invention has been described in conjunction with specific embodiments thereof, it is evident that many alternatives, modifications and variations will be apparent to those skilled in the art. Accordingly, the preferred embodiments of the invention as set forth herein, are intended to be illustrative, not limiting. Various changes may be made without departing from the true spirit and full scope of the invention as set forth herein and defined in the claims—

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-23 in their entirety and without prejudice and add the following new claims: